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GEOGRAPHICAL PUBLICATIONS

(Reviews and Titles of Books, Papers, and Maps)

For key to classification see "Explanatory Note" in Vol. II, pp. 77-81

NORTH AMERICA

CANADA

Maritime Provinces, Newfoundland

HOWLEY, J. P. **The Beothucks, or Red Indians: The aboriginal inhabitants of Newfoundland.** xx and 348 pp.; maps, diagrs., ills., bibliogr., index. University Press, Cambridge (Engl.), 1915. $6.50. 12 x 9½.

Mr. Howley, who for forty years was connected with the Geological Survey of Newfoundland—begun by the late Alexander Murray, F.G.S.,—was attracted to the subject of the aboriginal inhabitants when the survey of the valley of the Exploits River was started in 1868. In this valley many relics of the Red Indians were found, and traces at that time of their deer fences were in evidence (see also Mr. Babcock's paper on Markland in this number of the *Review*, pp. 314-315). Time and scanty records have much handicapped Mr. Howley in his work, but he has most industriously prosecuted his search for evidences of the habits, vocabulary, and origin of this long-extinct people and has given us the result of his labors in a most interesting volume. In the preface he says that he has used his best endeavors "to preserve from oblivion the principal facts relating to this interesting but unfortunate section of the human family."

In his account of the Beothucks, Mr. Howley quotes the narratives of the early voyagers who visited the New World and who recorded their intercourse with and their capture of a few of the natives, whom they carried to Europe. Some of the narratives cannot be depended upon as relating to Newfoundland. For instance, Richard Edens, in 1555, and Fabian, another chronicler of contemporary date, mention that Cabot brought to England three of the natives, "which he presented to the King (Henry VII) in the fourteenth year of his reign," viz. 1499. None of these writers is considered reliable, as the information they published was mostly obtained from Sebastian Cabot's statements, which, it is generally conceded, were not truthful. As Mr. Howley says, "the accounts of the Cabot discoveries are of such a meager description, and are, moreover, so conflicting and unreliable in most respects that we can cull very little from them that is really trustworthy; consequently their references to the people met with on these shores might apply to any of the inhabitants from Cape Chidley to Florida." The landfall of Cabot is a much-disputed point, and as it is not certain that he ever saw Newfoundland any testimony of his respecting the aborigines is of no value.

In Gaspar de Cortereal's account of his voyage in 1500, it is related that a number of the Indians were brought to Lisbon. The description given of them shows that they must have been Eskimos and not Indians. In his second voyage he was lost. During the sixteenth century it is recorded that natives from North America were brought to England and some to France. In the records of the voyages of Jacques Cartier, 1534-1535, we get the first reliable description of the Beothucks, or natives of Newfoundland. From this time onwards, it appears that very little attempt was made to open up an amicable intercourse with the aborigines, which was no doubt due in part to their timidity and to the ruthlessness of the Europeans who visited these shores and who shot down these people at sight. Hence it is that we have no certain knowledge of their origin. For over three hundred years they were known to Europeans as inhabiting Newfoundland. They were pictured as a people of good stature and well made; of a light color, and not darker than some French people. They broiled their meat and fish, which they were in the habit of preserving by drying, and they clothed themselves with skins. Here on the nearest point of America to Europe, in the oldest of England's colonies, has lived, flourished, and become extinct in its own orbit a primitive nation.

Was this tribe of Indians related to those tribes which occupied the neighboring continent or was it *sui generis?* Mr. Howley speaks of the theories advanced by early writers that these Indians were descendants of the Norsemen (see Mr. Babcock's paper, above, pp. 314-315), who, tradition asserts, discovered America in the tenth century; but on an examination of the vocabulary, gathered from some of the Beothucks who were brought to St. John's in the early part of the nineteenth century, when an attempt was made to hold friendly intercourse with them, it has been held that such could not be the case. Some authorities assert that they were decidedly of Algonquin stock and were related to the Pawtuckets and Pequots of New England. Professor G. Latham of the Anthropological Society of Great Britain gives it as his opinion that they were a separate branch of the Algonquins, whilst the late Albert S. Gatschet of the Bureau of American Ethnology of Washington, who took infinite pains in comparing the Beothuck vocabulary with that of the many dialects of the Indian tribes of the mainland, was decidedly of the opinion that the language possesses no real affinity with any of these, that it is a mistake to suppose they were Algonquins, or yet Chippewans.

From the evidence compiled by Mr. Howley it is impossible to form any definite conclusion as to the origin of the Beothucks, yet there can be little doubt that they must have come originally from the mainland of America and by way of the narrow Straits of Belle Isle. When they came to Newfoundland can only be guessed at, but it must have been certainly many years before the discovery of America. That they existed in the island up to 1827 and that since then no trace of them can be found is chronicled by Mr. Howley, who is of opinion that they migrated to the Labrador coast about that time.

H. W. LE MESSURIER.

GANONG, W. F. **An organization of the scientific investigation of the Indian place-nomenclature of the Maritime Provinces of Canada.** *Trans. Roy. Soc. of Canada,* Ser. 3, Vol. 9, 1915, pp. 375-448.

G[ARNIER], A., edit. **Relation d'un naufrage sur l'Ile Royale, 1780-1781.** *Bull. Soc. de Géogr. de Québec,* Vol. 10, 1916, No. 3, pp. 154-167; No. 4, pp. 214-229. [This narration of a shipwreck on Cape Breton Isle (Ile Royale) during the winter of 1780-81 is extracted from the journal of Ensign M. S. W. Prenties. The relation was first published in London, 1782.]

MCINTOSH, D. S. **A study of the Cow Bay beaches.** Maps, ills. *Proc. and Trans. Nova Scotian Inst. of Sci.,* Vol. 14, Part II, 1915-16, pp. 109-119. Halifax. [The author does not find any evidence pointing to recent elevation of the coast line. See reference in Professor D. W. Johnson's paper "Is the Atlantic Coast Sinking?" in the February, 1917, *Review,* p. 137.]

MACKAY, A. H. **The phenology of Nova Scotia:** (1) **1912;** (2) **1913;** (3) **1914;** (4) **1915.** Maps. *Proc. and Trans. Nova Scotian Inst. of Sci.,* Vol. 13, 1910-14, pp. 250-258; pp. 347-355; Vol. 14, Part I, pp. 57-65; Part II, pp. 133-140. Halifax. [Notes on the date of the advent of spring as indicated by the budding of characteristic plants, etc.]

MORRIS, DANIEL. **Newfoundland and its forest resources.** *Scottish Geogr. Mag.,* Vol. 32, 1916, No. 8, pp. 352-366.

—— **Nova Scotia, Province of: Annual report of the mines: 1915,** 181 pp., diagrs.; **1916,** 174 pp., diagrs., ills. Dept. of Public Works and Mines, Halifax, 1916 and 1917.

WRIGHT, W. J. **Moncton map-area, New Brunswick.** *Summary Rept. Geol. Survey of Canada for 1915,* pp. 179-185. Ottawa, 1916.

—— ***Nova Scotia, Province of, Map 150A. Ponhook Lake sheet No. 72.*** 1:63,360. Geological Survey, Dept. of Mines, Ottawa, 1916.

UNITED STATES

Western States

BEADLE, J. B. **Progress in reclamation of arid lands in the western United States.** Map, ills. *Ann. Rept. Smithsonian Inst. for 1915,* pp. 467-488. Washington, D. C., 1916.

The progress that has been made in the transformation of the arid west and in the creation of opportunities for homes for citizens is summarized in this article. Mr. Beadle has been in a position to watch the changes and to select for description the salient points in the great works which have been initiated under the terms of the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902. He has outlined the principal engineering features and has given large consideration to the geographic or topographic features which have contributed to the practicability of the various undertakings. Especial attention has been given to the factors which have made it possible for settlers to obtain a permanent foothold on the soil.

The amount of money derived from the proceeds of the disposition of public lands and utilized in the building of works for reclaiming the arid lands totals up to nearly $100,000,000. With this sum there have been constructed some of the largest works for conservation of water by storage that have ever been undertaken, such, for example, as the Roosevelt Dam in Arizona; the Arrowrock Dam in Idaho, 350 feet in height, the highest in the world; the Shoshone Dam in Wyoming; and the Elephant Butte Dam in New Mexico. In all a hundred dams, large and small, have been built, supplying water to nearly 10,000 miles of irrigating canals and distributaries. There have been built also 25 tunnels, through which some of these canals run, and nearly 65,000 canal structures, big and little. But greater than the engineering work is the transformation of over a million acres of desert into productive farms, and the fact that in the past year crop values of nearly $20,000,000 have already been realized, although the irrigated lands themselves have not yet been wholly subdued and brought under cultivation.

Climate, soil, and adequate water supply contribute to success, but after all the man himself is the essential item. With the true pioneering spirit, willing to endure privations, to work hard, to practice thrift, to use his brains, and to persist in good works, the settler has every reason to look forward to a comfortable and prosperous home. Experience has shown that there is probably no occupation in which the average man can be more assured of success. For one reason, in these new communities he is on a par with his neighbors. All are struggling, all wear old clothes, and all are forced to put back into the farm and home every cent that can be spared. Thrift is enforced, and thus, although constantly in debt and sometimes almost in want, the owner of a farm finds his holding increasing in value as the soil is intelligently tilled.

The individual counts for far more in these sparsely settled western states than in the east, and the farmers on these reclaimed lands may well feel a pride that they are a larger factor in the state and in the nation than they possibly could be in the densely crowded eastern section of the country. F. H. NEWELL.

JOHNSON, CLIFTON. **Highways and byways of the Pacific Coast.** xiii and 323 pp.; ills. (American Highways and Byways Ser.) The Macmillan Co., New York, 1908; new edit., 1913. 8 x 5.

The author has ''wandered much on rural byways and lodged most of the time at village hotels or in rustic houses'' searching for ''the typical and the picturesque.'' These qualities have been sought not only in the peculiarities of Pacific Coast scenery and climate but also, and most assiduously, in human types and in personalities. The first chapter, written in an informal and chatty style, gives interesting comments on the approaches to the Grand Canyon of Arizona and an accurate and charming word-picture of the soft tones of the successive strata and the wonderful changes of tints in the varying lights and shadows.

The reader must not expect to get a complete geographical account of any portion of the west, for the author's object is the enjoyment not merely of natural scenery but also of the reaction to a new environment of both settler and tramp. The itinerary carries one from Arizona to San Diego and southern California, thence northward through the San Joaquin Valley to the Yosemite and San Francisco, but the narrative is frequently interrupted by detailed accounts of trivialities touching human life. After a side trip to Nevada and the mines the journey continues northward again past Shasta to Oregon and the Northwest. Each chapter closes with notes for the traveler, and everywhere the author's camera has caught typical views which supplement the text.

RULIFF S. HOLWAY.

ABEL, A. H. **The journal of John Greiner.** *Old Santa Fe,* Vol. 3, 1916, No. 11, pp. 189-243. [Duties of a U. S. acting Superintendent of Indian Affairs at Santa Fe, New Mexico, in 1852.]

ATWOOD, W. W. **The physiographic conditions at Butte, Montana, and Bingham Canyon, Utah, when the copper ores in these districts were enriched.** Maps, diagrs., ills. *Econ. Geol.,* Vol. 11, 1916, No. 8, pp. 697-740.

AYERS, H. G., AND G. D. COWIE. **Precise leveling from Reno to Las Vegas, Nev., and from Tonopah Junction, Nev., to Laws, Cal.** 49 pp.; maps, diagr. *U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey Serial No. 49.* Washington, D. C., 1916.

BRENNA, PAULO. **Interessi dell'emigrazione italiana negli Stati di Washington, Oregon, Idaho, e Montana.** *Boll. della Emigrazione,* Vol. 15, 1916, No. 7, pp. 5-42. R. Commissariato della Emigrazione, Rome.

DARTON, N. H. **Geology and underground water of Luna County, New Mexico.**

188 pp.; maps, diagrs., ills., index. *U. S. Geol. Survey Bull. 618.* Washington, D. C., 1916.

FREEMAN, O. W. **Geographic influences affecting distribution of population and character of industries in Montana.** 7 pp. Reprinted from *Inter-Mountain Educator,* January, 1916. [Abstracted in the *Review,* Vol. 1, 1916, p. 217.]

GARVER, F. H. **Montana as a field for historical research.** *Proc. Mississippi Valley Hist. Assoc. for the Year 1913-14,* Vol. 7, pp. 98-112. [Desiderata named include discussion of the geology, physical geography, early roads and trails, exploration, fur trade, mining, water and land transportation of the state.]

HULL, DOROTHY. **Castano de Sosa's expedition to New Mexico in 1590.** Ills. *Old Santa Fe,* Vol. 3, 1916, No. 12, pp. 307-332.

JUDSON, K. B., edit. **Dr. John McLoughlin's last letter to the Hudson's Bay Company, as chief factor, in charge at Fort Vancouver, 1845.** *Amer. Hist. Rev.,* Vol. 21, 1915, No. 1, pp. 104-134.

McEWEN, G. F. **Summary and interpretation of the hydrographic observations made by the Scripps Institution for Biological Research of the University of California, 1908 to 1915.** Maps, diagrs. *Univ. of California Publs. in Zoology,* Vol. 15, 1916, No. 3, pp. 255-356. [Discusses the phenomenon of cold water along the Californian coast and the hypothesis of upwelling of deep cold water. For an abstract of an earlier article on the same subject by Dr. McEwen see note on ''Ocean Temperatures along the West Coast of North America,'' *Bull. Amer. Geogr. Soc.,* Vol. 45, 1913, pp. 452-453.]

MEANY, E. S. **First American settlement on Puget Sound.** *Washington Hist. Quart.,* Vol. 7, 1916, No. 2, pp. 136-143.

MEINZER, O. E. **Artesian water for irrigation in Little Bitterroot Valley, Montana.** (Contributions to the Hydrology of the United States, 1916.) Maps, diagrs., ills. *U. S. Geol. Survey Water-Supply Paper 400-B,* pp. 9-37. Washington, D. C., 1916.

QUAIFE, M. M. **Notes and documents: Some new-found records of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.** *Mississippi Valley Hist. Rev.,* Vol. 2, 1915, No. 1, pp. 106-124.

RAMALEY, FRANCIS. **Dry grassland of a high mountain park in northern Colorado.** Ills. *Plant World,* Vol. 19, 1916, No. 9, pp. 249-270.

REED, W. G. **Report of the Meteorological Station at Berkeley, California, for the year ending June 30, 1915.** Diagrs. *Univ. of California Publs. in Geogr.,* Vol. 1, 1917, No. 10, pp. 441-504. [A note on the summer fog ascribes this phenomenon ''probably'' to mixture. Figure 6 is a clear and concise graphic presentation of the facts regarding the probability and the percentage of days with and without measurable precipitation. Figure 10 shows the precipitation of 1914-15 by rainfall days. A study of rainfalls by cyclones, a most important subject in our latitudes, is included.—R. DE C. W.]

—— **Seattle, The public port utilities in.** 23 pp.; map, ills. *Port of Seattle Commission Bull. No. 8.* Seattle, [1916].

TERMAAT, M. I. **Cities of northern Puget Sound.** *Journ. of Geogr.,* Vol. 14, 1915-16, No. 9, pp. 368-369.

—— **Washington number.** Maps. *Journ. of Geogr.,* Vol. 14, 1915-16, No. 9, pp. 309-372. [This series of articles on the physical geography, the resources, and development of Washington includes a paper of special interest entitled ''Some Geographic Influences of Eastern Washington in Relation to Agriculture'' by A. J. Lechner. The author points out that the variations in agriculture in various sections of the eastern portion of the state are very marked. He finds rainfall and soil to be the dominant controls, topography and altitude having secondary influences.]

EUROPE

GENERAL

EVERSLEY, LORD. **The partitions of Poland.** 328 pp.; maps, ills., index. Dodd, Mead and Company, New York, 1915. $2.50. 9 x 5½.

NALKOWSKI, W. **Poland as a geographical entity.** With a preface by James Fairgrieve. 63 pp.; maps. Published for the Polish Information Committee by George Allen & Unwin Ltd., London, 1917. 8½ x 5½.

ORVIS, J. S. **A brief history of Poland.** xix and 359 pp.; maps, bibliogr., index. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, 1916. $1.50. 8 x 5.

Sympathetic attention is directed at the present moment toward Poland in view of the promises of the restoration of the country's sovereignty made by both belligerent parties. All three of these books offer information intended to enlighten readers on the historical basis of Poland's right to independence. From Lord Eversley's book it will be easy to understand how deeply Prussia was involved in the partition of Poland. Miss Orvis' work demonstrates the faulty side of the German pledge of November 5, 1916, granting Polish autonomy. This grant was made at Russia's sole expense and with the exclusion of Posen and Galicia. It therefore deprives Poland of the great cities which have been centers of national life for the last one thousand years.

For a clear description of the country Nalkowski's essay is of real value. It errs, however, on a side toward which Polish scientists have tended during the past two years with an ease altogether unwarranted by facts. A scientific delimitation of Poland's national area must primarily take into account the individuality of the Polish plain. The eastern boundary at the time of the First Partition or the widest extension of Polish frontiers beyond the Dnieper into Russia proper are mere records of military expansion. As such they are open to criticism analogous to that which is invoked to repudiate retention of German or Russian frontiers on Polish territory. The percentages of Polish population indicated on the map accompanying this work carry far greater significance.

OPPERMANN, EDMUND. **Europa (ohne Deutschland und Alpenländer).** (Series: Präparationen für den geographischen Unterricht, Vol. 1). 362 pp.; ills., index. Julius Klinkhardt, Leipzig, 1913. Mk. 5.80. 10 x 6½.

This is a book written by a school inspector in Brunswick, not a doctor, not claiming to be a geographer, but a book that many a geographic doctor might envy for its simplicity and usefulness.

It contains the items most essential to be taught in school geography classes about most European countries. Germany and the Alpine countries are omitted. The material is good, fresh, and modern. Any teacher who has time would prepare his own material, but time is just what most of them have not. American teachers who are not well read on geographic literature, especially the German books, could not do better than use Oppermann until they come to know the original works. For he goes to admirable original sources, largely unknown in America, for his material. A clever introduction "to arouse interest" is usually prefixed and then follow classified materials, briefly stated, but not so barely as to be uninteresting. It is a very useful volume.

MARK JEFFERSON.

ANNONI, A. M. **Problemi demografici.** *L'Esplorazione Commerc.*, Vol. 31, 1916, No. 4, pp. 135-137.

CASSI, GELLIO. **La geografia come causa nell'attuale conflitto europeo.** *La Geogr.*, Vol. 4, 1916, No. 4-7, pp. 158-164. Novara.

—— **Crops in the warring countries.** *The Nation*, No. 2663, Vol. 103, 1916, p. 29.

HARMS, PAUL. **Landmacht gegen Seemacht.** Map. *Berliner Tageblatt: Wochenausgabe*, No. 52, Vol. 4, 1915, pp. 1-2. [Abstracted under the title of "Land Versus Sea in the War" in the July, 1916, *Review*, pp. 63-64.]

HILDEBRANDSSON, H. H. **On the so-called change in European climate during historic times.** *Monthly Weather Rev.*, Vol. 44, 1916, No. 6, pp. 344-352. [Abstracted in the December, 1916, *Geogr. Rev.*, Vol. 2, p. 468.]

METHORST, H. W. **Etat de la population (Europe).** viii and 166 pp. Annuaire Internatl. de Statistique, publié par l'Office Permanent de l'Institut International de Statistique. Van Stockum & Fils, La Haye, 1916.

NATALE, GIUSEPPE. **Sulla mancata espugnazione di Cattaro e dei Dardanelli, e sulla necessità, per l'Italia, di possedere parte della costa orientale adriatica.** Diagrs. *Riv. Militare Italiana*, Vol. 61, 1916, No. 7, pp. 854-866.

NAUMANN, FRIEDRICH. **Central Europe.** Translated by Christabel M. Meredith, with an introduction by W. J. Ashley. xix and 354 pp.; bibliogr., index. P. S. King & Son, Ltd., London, 1916. 7s. 6d. 9 x 6. [Mainly politico-economic.]

RIDSDALE, P. S. **Shot, shell and soldiers devastate forests.** Ills. *Amer. Forestry*, No. 270, Vol. 22, 1916, pp. 333-340. [On the devastation of forests in the European war zone.]

DARDANO, ACHILLE, AND L. F. DE MAGISTRIS, edits. ***Atlante della nostra guerra.*** 60 pages of text (illustrated) and 16 maps. Istituto Geografico de Agostini, Novara, 1916. [An excellent atlas containing political, topographic, and ethnographic maps dealing with the European War, with special emphasis on the Austro-Italian boundary region. This section is shown topographically on six maps in 1:250,000, with altitude tints, reprints of the admirable map published by the Italian Touring Club. A critical feature of the large-scale ethnographic map of the Trentino (Pl. 8) is the omission of racial coloring from the mountain heights, the valleys, as the only inhabited lands in this region, alone being colored. The German area, usually indicated as an uninterrupted mass north of the Ortler-Dolomite Alps axis, thus dwindles to the strips representing the upper Etsch and Eisack valleys, the Pustertal and the Passeiertal. The ''natural geographical boundary'' of Italy is shown on the appropriate maps.]

—— ***[France, Northeast, and southwest Belgium, map showing battle front, and described as "Map of the British Battle Front": no title on map.]*** 1 in. to 4 mi. (1:253,440). G. W. Bacon & Co., London, 1916.

AFRICA

General

RECLUS, ONÉSIME, edit. **Grande Géographie Bong illustrée: Les pays et les peuples: Vol. 4 [Africa].** 406 pp.; maps, diagrs., ills. PAUL PELET: **Afrique du Nord (Algérie, Tunisie, Maroc),** pp. 3-74; HENRI BUSSON: **L'Ouest Africain,** pp. 77-156; A. CABATON: **Le Nord-Est Africain,** pp. 159-226; M. CHESNEAU: **Afrique Australe,** pp. 229-322; HENRI FROIDEVAUX: **Les iles africaines de la Mer des Indes,** pp. 325-342; HENRI FROIDEVAUX: **Les terres du Pacifique,** pp. 345-397. Bong & Cie, Paris, 1914. 15 x 12.

This volume is one of five large volumes describing the countries and peoples of the earth, produced under the direction of Onésime Reclus. Africa occupies seven-eighths of the book, and very summary treatment is given to the ''Pacific lands,'' under which term are included Australasia and Oceania and the Philippines. The authors are well known as writers on geography.

The book is a sumptuous product. Its illustrations, halftones, and plates in colors are numerous and educative. Every photograph tells something worth knowing. The maps are in the best style of French cartography. There are 15 large maps in colors and 100 maps and plans in the text. The majority of the large maps are in physical coloring with hachures; being on scales larger than usually available in this important manner of representation (most of Africa 1:8,000,000, Atlas countries, 1:2,500,000), they are especially valuable. Many of the text-maps are black-and-white insets that show surface forms most effectively.

The narrative is permeated with scientific spirit and good geography that is adapted to the needs of any intelligent reader. But we miss a chapter giving a general treatment of the continent. Coast lines and their significance are treated by countries; but what is the effect upon Africa of the fact that, while it is nearly three times as large as Europe, it has only 19,000 miles of coast line, while Europe has 23,000? Surely a book on Africa should make it clear that the continent is less approachable from the sea than any other excepting Antarctica; and we also miss other broad characterizations of Africa as a whole that really have vital relation to the description of parts of it.

The book deals with the face of Africa as it now appears. It would interest many to be told something about how we are able to draw so complete a picture. Take the Niger River, known vaguely to the ancients before the Christian era. A hundred and one years ago last July Captain Tuckey and twelve of his men died of fever on the banks of the Congo, believing that they were on the lower Niger; and geographers, for years after, supposed this was true. A few lines would tell why there was a Niger problem and how it was solved. The book mentions the ''Niger problem'' and says Clapperton solved it; but it was Lander who threaded the delta, reached the sea, and received the first award of the Royal Medal of the Royal Geographical Society for solving the Niger problem.

Another incident may be mentioned here, not in criticism, but to show what interesting side lights may be thrown upon the Africa of today by a casual appeal to history. While the ''Island of Meroë'' appears on the maps, it is not mentioned in the text of this book. This name commemorates an interesting discovery made by the Greeks before the time of Christ. The Greeks said there was an enormous area of land in Africa that was entirely surrounded by water. This was almost but not quite true. We can easily trace their ''island'' on a map. Start at Lake Tana in Abyssinia. Follow the Blue Nile, which emerges from the lake, south and west to the White Nile; follow the White Nile north to the Atbara River; then follow the Atbara to its source, which a good map will show a little to the northwest of Lake Tana; and also a tiny tributary of the lake that rises only two or three miles from the Atbara. Nature did not quite complete the island.

The book most admirably performs its task of showing the various countries and their peoples, especially in their utilitarian aspects as we know them today. There is, of course, an occasional statement that might be improved. In treating the *sudd* in the Upper Nile as a great obstruction to navigation the book fails to mention another serious evil that the barrage inflicts. An enormous quantity of water, held up by this obstruction, evaporates, while Egypt needs every drop she can get not only for irrigation but also for the manufacturing enterprises which it is hoped to establish. British engineers were planning before the war to open and maintain an uninterrupted channel.

The interest of the French in Africa accounts for the space devoted to that continent. Nevertheless the allotment of 30 pages to Australia and New Zealand as compared with 350 to Africa seems somewhat out of proportion. However, in this brief space, the essentials of Australasian geography are brought out. The reason given (p. 389) for the inclusion of the Philippines in Australasia is flimsy. CYRUS C. ADAMS.

HUFFNAGEL, G. E. **Trans-Afrikaansche spoorwegproblemen.** Maps. *Tijdschr. voor Econ. Geogr.*, Vol. 7, 1916, No. 9, pp. 441-448; No. 10, pp. 471-478.

JOHNSTON, H. H. **The Portuguese and their early knowledge of central African geography.** *Geogr. Journ.*, Vol. 47, 1916, No. 3, pp. 210-212.

MARTEL, E. A. **Les colonies portugaises.** Maps, ills. *La Nature*, No. 2230, 1916, June 24, pp. 401-406.

NICOLA, ANGELO. **L'Italia ed il futuro equilibrio africano.** Maps. *L'Esplorazione Commerc.*, Vol. 31, 1916, No. 3, pp. 81-91; No. 4, pp. 126-135.

O'LEARY, DELACY. **Characteristics of the Hamitic languages.** 46 pp.; bibliogr. John Wright & Sons, Ltd., Bristol, 1915(?). 7½ x 5.

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

GEOLOGY AND GEOMORPHOLOGY

DARTON, N. H. **Explosion craters.** Maps, diagrs., ills. *Scientific Monthly*, Vol. 3, 1916, No. 5, pp. 417-430.

Explosion craters are holes of volcanic origin occurring on plains instead of on volcanic peaks. They have no connection with lava outflows but are rimmed with fragmental volcanic material. A study is here made of the group of such craters near Orizaba Peak, not far from the city of Mexico, of several in north-western Sonora near the international boundary, and of some in Arizona. Among the latter is Crater Mound, or Coon Butte, as it was formerly named, called by the author one of the greatest enigmas in nature. The idea has been advanced that it was caused by the impact of a mass of meteoric iron from 50 to 100 feet in diameter, but this view has not yet been substantiated by evidence of the rocks or by a local study of the magnetic declination. Without expressing an opinion as to this hypothesis Mr. Darton points out the similarity of this crater to others of undoubtedly explosive origin, including not only those in Mexico and the southwestern United States, but also those in the valley of the Rhine, in France, Italy, Madagascar, and India. A photograph of a crater 50 feet deep made by the explosion of a mine in northern France during the present war shows a remarkable resemblance to Crater Mound. Numerous contour maps and sections show the typical steep inner and gradual outer slopes of the craters, breaking through old beds which are bent up very slightly or not at all, with rims formed of the ejected material. The rims are deposited on ancient lava flows or on sedimentaries, fragments of which are included in the ejecta. Ordoñez is quoted with reference to the Mexican craters. He regarded them as marking the last stages of volcanic activity and the product of igneous action of comparatively slight depth. R. H. JONES.

PHILIPPSON, ALFRED. **Die Erosion des fliessenden Wassers und ihr Einfluss auf die Landschaftstypen.** 36 pp.; diagrs. *Geogr. Bausteine No. 7.* Justus Perthes, Gotha, 1914.

Philippson's essay gives the subject-matter of three public lectures under the above title, and opens with an historical review of the growth of geomorphology. The modern development of the subject, in the author's opinion, has been unfavorably affected by what he considers the undue emphasis on the deductive method and the extreme attempts at classification, involving highly specialized nomenclature, introduced by Davis. There follows a general discussion of the principles of stream action upon different types of land forms and under different climatic conditions, along lines already quite familiar to American students. The essay is illustrated by numerous simple diagrams, and furnishes a good elementary discussion of a subject on which the author is eminently qualified to speak. DOUGLAS W. JOHNSON.